

Natural Profile Parameters

This document describes how and where you can use Natural profile parameters to define various characteristics of the Natural environment. The following general topics are covered:

- Parameter Hierarchy
- Runtime Assignment of Parameter Values
- Dynamic Assignment of Parameter Values
- Static Assignment of Parameter Values

See also:

- Profile Parameters Grouped by Functions
- Profile Parameters (Detailed Descriptions)
- Natural Configuration Utility (Usage)

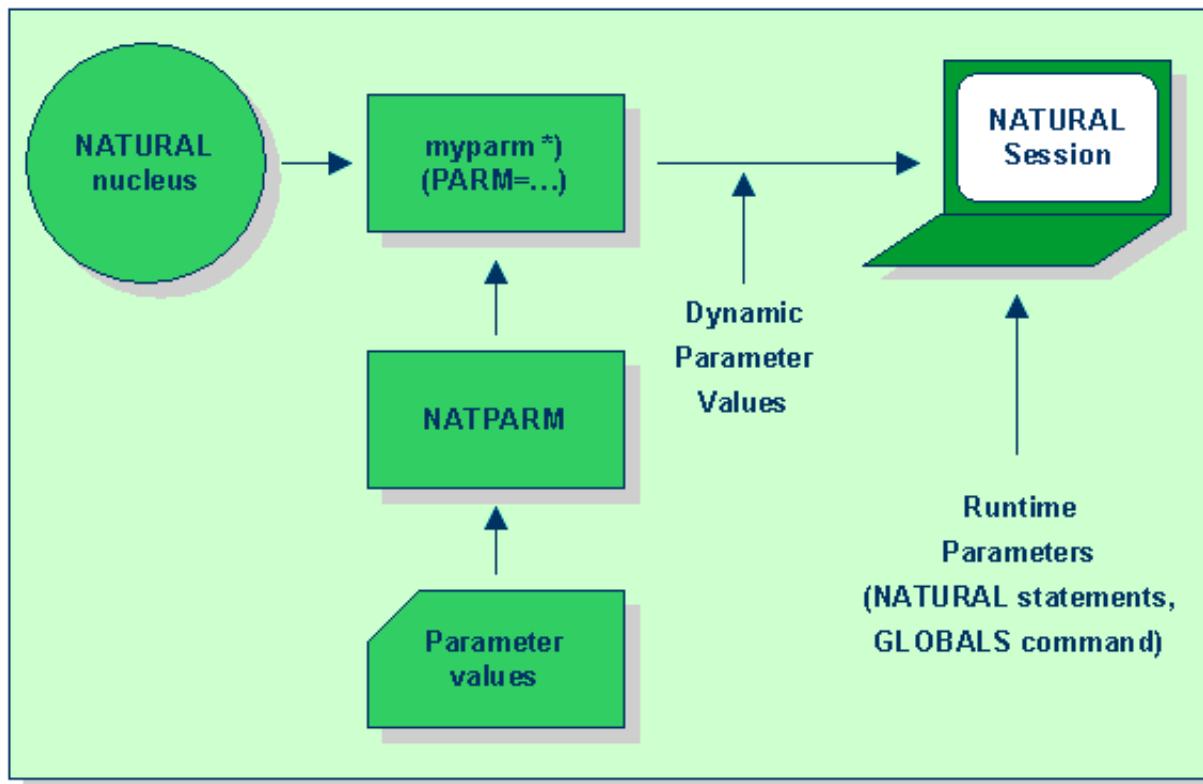
Note:

This document covers the use of Natural profile parameters in a Windows environment. If you are using Natural for Windows for remote development in conjunction with Natural's Single Point of Development (SPoD), see also the documents referring to profile parameter usage in the corresponding platform-specific Natural Operations documentation.

Parameter Hierarchy

The values for the Natural profile parameters are taken from the three sources. Their priority is explained below:

1. Runtime assignment of session parameters using the Natural SET GLOBALS statement or the GLOBALS system command (highest priority).
2. Dynamic assignments which are valid for the current Natural session. These are made by specifying individual parameters and/or an alternative parameter file when starting Natural.
3. Static assignments, which are made by parameters specified in the Natural parameter file NATPARM (lowest priority).



* The file "mparm" represents an alternative user-defined parameter file, which overrides the settings in NATPARM.

Runtime Assignment of Parameter Values

A value can be assigned to a profile parameter at runtime if "Specification within Session" is specified as "YES" in the description table of the parameter:

Possible values	
Default value	
Dynamic specification	
Specification within session	YES

The parameter keyword and the required value are entered as session parameter following the Natural SET GLOBALS statement or GLOBALS system command (for detailed information on Session Parameters, see the Natural Reference documentation).

Examples:

```
SET GLOBALS SA=ON,IM=D
```

```
GLOBALS SA=ON,IM=D
```

Note:

The SET GLOBALS statement can be used in reporting mode only.

Dynamic Assignment of Parameter Values

Dynamically assigned parameter values are used to override Natural profile parameter settings, as specified in the default parameter file NATPARM, for the duration of a single Natural session, and/or to select a specific system profile that is to be in effect for the Natural session.

A value can be assigned dynamically to a profile parameter if "Dynamic Specification" is specified as "YES" in the description table of the parameter:

Possible values	
Default value	
Dynamic specification	YES
Specification within session	

The setting of dynamic parameters enables a certain environment to be set up when starting Natural. The values for the dynamic parameters are passed by the operating system to Natural when the session is started.

► To specify dynamic parameter values

1. Select the Natural program-item icon.
2. Click the right mouse button and, from the resulting context menu, choose **Properties**.
The "Natural Properties" dialog box appears.
3. Choose the "Shortcut" tab.
4. In the "Target" field, enter the desired dynamic parameters and their values after the Natural path.

Example:

```
C:\ProgramFiles\Software AG\Natural\v.r.s.\bin\natural.exe PARM=MYPARM SM=ON DTFORM=I
- where v.r.s. is the Natural version, release, system maintenance level number.
```

The parameter file MYPARM is to be used for the Natural session. The values for the profile parameters SM and DTFORM are dynamically specified.

Static Assignment of Parameter Values

By default, the parameter specifications in the parameter file NATPARM are used to determine the characteristics of your Natural environment. Initially, the NATPARM parameter file contains the default values as supplied by Software AG.

If you wish to use Natural with parameter values other than the system defaults, use the Natural Configuration Utility. With this utility, you can

- modify the default parameter file NATPARM and/or
- create your own parameter files.

See Changing Parameter Settings in the Natural Configuration Utility description.